

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02155 121338Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AGRE-00
OPIC-06 AID-05 XMB-04 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
/044 W

-----121350Z 036451 /43

R 121213Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3450

UNCLAS ADDIS ABABA 2155

DEPT FOR AF/E

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EPAP, ET
SUBJECT: COFFEE BOARD REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

1. EMBASSY RECEIVED FOLLOWING LETTER FROM ATO HAILU TEFERRA,
GENERAL MANAGER ETHIOPIAN COFFEE & TEA DEVELOPMENT &
MARKETING AUTHORITY:

BEGIN QUOTE:

FOLLOWING THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY OF SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA,
THE COFFEE & TEA DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING AUTHORITY HAD
BEEN PARTICIPATING IN THE COFFEE TRADE OF THE COUNTRY.
SINCE THEN, THE AUTHORITY'S MARKETING AGENCY IS DOING
EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPLY AS MUCH COFFEE
AS POSSIBLE TO OUR TRADITIONAL ETHIOPIAN COFFEE
CUSTOMERS AND DEVELOP NEW RELATIONSHIPS AS WELL.

HOWEVER, TO OUR SURPRISE WE HAVE COME ACROSS ON TWO
OCCASIONS THAT SHIPMENTS FROM THE AUTHORITY'S MARKETING
AGENCY ARE ALLEGEDLY ADULTERATED WITH EXCRETA AND LIVE INSECTS.

TO FOLLOW UP THE ALLEGATION AND TRACE THE CAUSE FOR A
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PROMPT ACTION, WE HAVE REQUESTED THE FOLGER COFFEE
COMPANY ON ONE OCCASION (NOVEMBER 22, 1976) TO
PROVIDE US WITH A DESCRIPTION AND THE SAMPLE OF THE INSECT.
REGRETTABLY, WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED NOR HEARD FROM THEM
ABOUT THE CASE.

VERY RECENTLY, WE HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF

LONRAY, COFFEE BUYER IN NEW YORK, THAT A SHIPMENT OF 50 TONS OF COFFEE HAD BEEN REFUSED ADMISSION ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT IS ADULTERATED (FOR FULL DESCRIPTION OF THE SHIPMENT REFER TO THE ATTACHED PHOTOCOPIES) WITH EXCRETA. WE HAVE COME TO UNDERSTAND THAT THE FINAL BUYER OF THE SHIPMENT IS AGAIN THE FOLGER.

WE RECKON THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOME PROBLEMS, HOWEVER, TO FACILITATE THE SMOOTH FLOW OF COFFEE INTO THE U.S. MARKET; ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF WIDER AND STRONGER RELATIONSHIP WITH A LARGE NUMBER OF U.S. COFFEE BUYERS, AND TO ENCOURAGE AND DEVELOP THE GROWING MARKETING CAPABILITY OF THE AUTHORITY'S MARKETING AGENCY, WE ASK THE ASSISTANCE OF YOUR GOOD-SELVES ON THE FOLLOWING CASES;

1. TO GET US THE SAMPLE OF INSECTS AND/OR EXCRETA WITH FULL DESCRIPTION ON THE CONDITION OF THE INSECTS AT THE TIME OF DISEMBARKATION. ANY ADVICE TO TACKLE THESE PROBLEMS WOULD BE VERY MUCH APPRIATED.

2. AS IT WOULD BE A GREAT PROBLEM TO TAKE OUT THE 50 TONS AND INDEED A RUNDOWN ON THE REPUTATION OF THE AGENCY, WE SHALL BE VERY MUCH OBLIGED IF YOU WOULD ASSIST US IN RE-EXAMINING THE SAMPLE AND ALLOW THE SHIPMENT TO BE ADMITTED INTO THE U.S.

HOPING TO HEAR FROM YOU AT THE EARLIEST, WE ASSURE YOU OF OUR CONTINUED SMOOTH BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP WITH U.S. COFFEE INDUSTRY. END QUOTE.

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2. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ASSISTANCE DEPARTMENT MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE IN RESPONSE TEFERRA'S REQUEST. COPIES OF LETTER AND ATTACHMENTS BEING POUCHED TO AF/E. TIENKEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COFFEE, TRADE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02155
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770126-0745
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770468/aaaacgns.tel
Line Count: 101
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e0a62fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2837631
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COFFEE BOARD REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, EPAP, ET, (ATO HAILU TEFERRA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e0a62fa7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009